

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06
NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 SS-15 SP-02 IGA-02 AGRE-00
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APPROVED BY S/NM:DHERNST
AID/SER/INC:HGROOM (DRAFT)
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DEA:BVANMATRE (INFO)
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S/NM:DSOHLIN (INFO)

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089006

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS PROGRAM - MOPS (MOPS PROCUREMENT)

REFERENCES: A) MEXICO 4349;

1. REFTEL DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR MORE PRECISE MAPS OF THE OPIUM POPPY GROWING REGIONS OF MEXICO. WE ARE EXPLORING WITH THE DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY (DMA) APPROPRIATE MEANS TO OBTAIN FINER SCALE MAPS FOR THE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN. ALTERNATIVELY, DMA CAN NEGOTIATE WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT TO ARRANGE FOR THE MEXICAN MAP SERVICE (CETENAL) TO PERFORM THE REQUIRED MAPPING MISSIONS AND PRODUCE THE IMAGRY THAT WOULD BE THEN USED BY DMA TO MAKE
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THE DESIRED MAPS OR THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE COULD HIRE A U.S. CONTRACTOR TO FLY THE MAPPING MISSIONS REIMBURSED BY INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL FUNDS AND SUBSEQUENT MAP PRODUCTION BY DMA. INITIAL DISCUSSIONS INDICATE THE FORMER APPROACH COULD BE MORE TIME CONSUMING AND POSSIBLY CETENAL ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS CONCERNING AREA COVERAGE NEEDS MIGHT BE A PROBLEM.

2. CONTRACTS AT DMA INDICATE THAT IT WILL TAKE ABOUT TWO MONTHS AFTER IMAGRY IS AVAILABLE TO PRODUCE THE FIRST ORTHO PICTO MAPS (COLOR WITH CONTOUR LINES COMPARED TO BLACK AND WHITE MAPS USING ONLY ORTHOPHOTO PROCESS) OF THE NORTHWEST ZONE. EACH MAP SHEET COVERS APPROXIMATELY 250 SQ MILES. THEREFORE, APPROXIMATELY 30 MAP SHEETS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR THE NORTHWEST ZONE. DMA NEEDS APPROXIMATELY SIX MONTHS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE IMAGRY TO DELIVER. DMA ESTIMATED THE COST TO PRODUCE THE ORTHO PICTO MAPS AT ABOUT DOLLARS 1.7 MILLION, HOWEVER, THIS COST MIGHT BE BORNE BY DMA IF INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS CAN BE REACHED. THEY ALSO ESTIMATED THAT IF THEY WERE TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO OBTAIN THE IMAGRY THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO ACCOMPLISH. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT IF THE PROCESS STARTED ON MAY 1 THE IMAGRY COULD NOT BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1977 WHICH IS THE WORST FLYING WEATHER. IN ORDER TO HAVE GOOD FLYING WEATHER WE WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL JANUARY 1978 WHICH WOULD MEAN ANOTHER THREE MONTHS DELAY. THEREFORE, THE FIRST MAPS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR CAMPAIGN USE UNTIL APRIL 1978. DMA ALSO ADVISED THAT WHEN THEY PERFORM MAPPING NON-COMBAT MISSIONS THEY USE CONTRACTOR SERVICES AND THAT IT APPEARS THAT IF THE AG'S OFFICE WERE TO HIRE A U.S. CONTRACTOR TO FLY THE MAPPING MISSION REIMBURSED BY USG AND THEN DELIVER IMAGRY PRODUCT TO DMA THE LONG LEAD TIME IN NEGOTIATION COULD BE REDUCED AND HOPEFULLY THE FIRST MAP SHEETS COULD BE AVAILABLE SOME TIME DURING THE FALL OF 1977.

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3. MISSION SHOULD EXPLORE THESE QUESTIONS WITH A.G. PLEASE ADVISE REGARDING DESIRE OF A.G. ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANCE OF MAPS FOR FALL CAMPAIGN AND MISSION VIEWS ON ALTERNATE APPROACHES.
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